

Claims

1. A package comprising components which, upon being mixed, are capable of forming a pharmaceutical composition that is effective in treating acne, said composition tending to degrade prematurely, one of said components comprising an oxidizing agent and another of said components comprising an antibiotic which is effective against acne-associated bacterial species, said components separated one from the other in said package, said one component having a viscosity within about 50% of the viscosity of said other component.

2. The package of Claim 1 wherein said component comprising an oxidizing agent comprises about 8 to about 12% w/w - component oxidizing agent.

3. The package of Claim 1 wherein said component comprising an antibiotic comprises about 1.5 to about 8.5% w/w - component antibiotic.

4. The package of Claim 1 wherein the ratio of said oxidizing agent to said antibiotic is about 1:1 to about 30:1.

5. The package of Claim 4 wherein the ratio of said oxidizing agent to said antibiotic is about 1:1 to about 5:1.

6. The package of Claim 1 wherein said oxidizing agent is benzoyl peroxide.

7. The package of Claim 1 wherein said antibiotic is selected from the group consisting of erythromycin and clindamycin.

8. The package of Claim 7 wherein said antibiotic is erythromycin.

9. The package of Claim 1 wherein said package comprises a dual packet laminated foil package.

10. A package comprising components which, upon being mixed, are capable of forming a pharmaceutical composition that is effective in treating acne, one of said components comprising a benzoyl peroxide gel and another of said components comprising a gel of erythromycin, said components separated one from the other, said benzoyl peroxide gel having a viscosity within about 50% of the viscosity of said erythromycin gel.

11. The package of Claim 10 wherein said benzoyl peroxide gel comprises about 8 to about 12% w/w - component benzoyl peroxide.

12. The package of Claim 11 wherein said benzoyl peroxide gel comprises about 10% w/w - component benzoyl peroxide.

13. The package of Claim 10 wherein said erythromycin gel comprises about 5.5 to about 8.5% w/w - component erythromycin.

14. The package of Claim 13 wherein said erythromycin gel comprises about 7% w/w - component erythromycin.

15. The package of Claim 14 wherein the ratio of said benzoyl peroxide to said erythromycin is about 1:1 to about 30:1.

16. The package of Claim 15 wherein the ratio of said benzoyl peroxide to said erythromycin is about 1:1 to about 5:1.

17. The package of Claim 10 wherein said package is a dual packet laminated foil package.

18. A package comprising: (A) components which, upon being mixed, are capable of forming a pharmaceutical composition that is effective in treating acne, one of said components comprising a benzoyl peroxide gel and another of said components comprising a gel of erythromycin and hydroxypropylcellulose; and (B) containers for holding said components in the package separated one from the other; said components having viscosities such that, upon the application of a uniform force to said components, substantially equal volumes of said components are capable of being dispensed simultaneously from said containers.

19. The package of Claim 18 wherein said benzoyl peroxide gel comprises about 8 to about 12% w/w - component benzoyl peroxide.

20. The package of Claim 18 wherein said erythromycin and hydroxypropylcellulose gel comprises about 5.5 to about 8.5% w/w - component erythromycin and about 3 to about 5% w/w - component hydroxypropylcellulose.

21. The package of Claim 18 wherein said benzoyl peroxide gel comprises about 10.5% w/w - component benzoyl peroxide and said gel of erythromycin and hydroxypropylcellulose comprises about 7% w/w - component erythromycin and about 4% w/w - component hydroxypropylcellulose.

22. The package of Claim 21 wherein said benzoyl peroxide gel has a viscosity from about 200,000 cps to about 500,000 cps and said erythromycin and hydroxypropylcellulose gel has a viscosity of from about 200,000 cps to about 400,000 cps.

23. A composition for the treatment of acne comprising:

- (a) benzoyl peroxide;
- (b) erythromycin; and
- (c) hydroxypropylcellulose.

24. The composition of Claim 23 including an additional gelling agent.

25. The composition of Claim 23 including a surface active agent.

26. The composition of Claim 23 including a base which increases the pH of said composition to a value at which said composition has an acceptable viscosity.

27. The composition of Claim 23 including an alcohol solvent for said erythromycin.

28. The composition of Claim 23 including a diluent.

29. A composition for the treatment of acne comprising:
(a) benzoyl peroxide; (b) erythromycin; (c) hydroxypropylcellulose; (d) a gelling agent; (e) a surface active agent; (f) a base; (g) an alcohol; and (h) water.

30. The composition of Claim 29 wherein said gelling agent is a hydroxylated vinylic polymer.

31. The composition of Claim 29 wherein said surface active agent is dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate.

32. The composition of Claim 29 wherein said base is sodium hydroxide.

33. The composition of Claim 29 wherein said alcohol is specially denatured ethanol.

34. A composition for the treatment of acne comprising about 5.25% w/w - composition benzoyl peroxide, about 3.45% w/w - composition erythromycin, and about 2% w/w - composition hydroxypropylcellulose.

35. The composition of Claim 34 comprising about 0.95% w/w - composition of a hydroxylated vinylic polymer, about 0.10% w/w - composition of dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate, about 0.2% w/w - composition of sodium hydroxide, about 44.55% w/w - composition specially denatured ethanol and about 43.5% w/w - composition of water.

36. A package containing a first acne-treating composition and a second acne-treating composition, said compositions tending to degrade chemically upon being mixed with one another, said package comprising a first chamber containing said first composition and a second chamber containing said second composition, each of said chambers having a sealed dispensing orifice, said orifices positioned adjacent to one another.

37. A package containing a first acne-treating composition and a second acne-treating composition, said compositions tending to degrade chemically upon being mixed with one another, said package comprising a first and second packet, said packets being attached to each other and each of said packets having a sealed dispensing orifice, said sealed dispensing orifices being positioned adjacent to each other

WO 01/91726

PCT/US01/18033

so that, as said compositions are dispensed through the orifices in unsealed form, they are combined with each other.

38. A package containing a first acne-treating composition and a second acne-treating composition, said compositions tending to degrade chemically upon being mixed with one another, said package comprising a first and second packet, each of said packets having a top which includes a dispensing orifice that has a tear-off tab seal, a bottom, two sides in a parallel relationship to one another, and an exterior face and an interior face, said first packet containing said first composition and said second packet containing said second composition, said interior faces of said packets adjacent to and facing one another such that said tear-off tabs can be simultaneously torn off such that said compositions are dispensed and combined with each other as they exit said packets through said dispensing orifices.